5th May 1962] [Mr. Speaker]

As the number of candidates validly nominated is equal to the number of vacancies to be filled viz., fourteen, I hereby declare them to have been duly elected to the Committee on Public Accounts for the year 1962–63.

The Hon. Minister for Finance, and the Chairman, Committee on Estimates, are members of the Committee ex-officio.

Under Rule 174 of the Assembly Rules, I nominate Sri V. R. Nedunchezhiyan to be the Chairman of the Committee.

(3) ELECTION TO THE COMMITTEE OF PRIVILEGES.

MR. SPEAKER : I have also to announce to the House that the following fifteen members were nominated for the election of fifteen members of the Madras Legislative Assembly to the Committee on Privileges for the year 1962–63 :—

1. Sri SAW. GANESAN
2. Pulavar K. GOVINDAN
3. Sri V. S. S. MANI
4. Sri K. R. NALLASIVAM
5. Sri K. NARAYANASWAMY PILLAI
6. Srimathi PARVATHI ARJUNAN
7. Sri P. RAJAGOPAL
8. Sri G. RAJARAM
9. Srimathi RAJATHI KUNCHITHAPATHAM
10. Sri P. RAMACHANDRAN
11. Sri S. RAMALINGAM
12. Sri V. SANKARAN
13. Sri A. K. SUBBIAH
14. Sri A. SWAMIDHAS
15. Sri G. VENKATARAMAN

As the number of candidates validly nominated is equal to the number of vacancies to be filled, viz., fifteen, I hereby declare them to have been duly elected to the Committee of Privileges for the year 1962-63. The Deputy Speaker is a Member of the Committee under Rule 183 (1) of the Assembly Rules.

Under sub-rule (4) of Rule 183 of the Madras Assembly Rules, I nominate Sri K. Parthasarathy to be the Chairman of the Committee.

(4) ELECTION TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE.

MR. SPEAKER : I have also to announce to the House that the following eleven members were duly nominated for the election of eleven members of the Madras Legislative Assembly to the House Committee for 1962–63 :—

1. Sri K. CHEEMAICHAMY
2. Sri A. DURAIARASAN

[Mr. Speaker] [5th May 1962

3. Sri G. Gomathi Sankara Dikshithar
4. Sri T. Karcha Gowder
5. Srimathi P. K. R. Lakshmikantham
6. Sri V. A. Muthiah
7. Sri S. Nanjunda Row
8. Sri P. Palani Pillai
9. Sri N. Rajangam
10. Sri A. Ramachandra Rayar
11. Sri R. S. Veerappa Chettiar

As the number of candidates who were duly nominated is equal to the number of vacancies to be filled, viz., eleven, I hereby declare them to have been duly elected to the House Committee.

Under rule 221 (1) of the Madras Legislative Assembly Rules, I hereby nominate (1) Sri P. Ramachandran, (2) Sri N. Sountharapandian, (3) Sri T. B. Kesavan and (4) Sri KR. RM. Kariamanicka Ambalam, to the members of the House Committee.

The Deputy Speaker is the Ex-Officio Chairman of the House Committee.

III.—CALLING ATTENTION TO THE NEED FOR DECLARATION OF PALLADAM AND DHARAPURAM TALUKS AS FAMINE AREA.

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. Member Sri K. N. Palaniswamy Gounder will call the attention of the Hon. Minister for Works to a matter of urgent public importance.

Sri K. N. PALANISWAMY GOUNDER: Sir, I call the attention of the Hon. Minister for Works to a matter of urgent public importance, viz., declaration of Palladam and Dharapuram taluks in Coimbatore District as Famine Area.

The Hon. Sri V. RAMAIAH: Sir, I rise to make the following statement :—

Palladam and Dharapuram taluks are known to be the distress pockets in Coimbatore District. The rainfall in those two taluks has been below normal during the last decade. However, the position has to some extent been relieved by good showers in many parts of the two taluks recently. The ryots have started ploughing and have sown gingelly and if there is another shower in a fortnight, a good harvest can be expected.

2. The Government are aware of the scarcity of drinking water felt in the taluks of Dharapuram and Palladam and they have proposed to sanction an allotment of Rs. 5 lakhs for deepening of wells. The Collector has been permitted to go ahead with the deepening of wells with the aid of power drills in bigger villages. Instructions have been issued to the Commissioners of Panchayat Unions to take up the work and the deepening of the existing wells is in progress. The pond works constructed during last year have